2005 Annual Report

Mayor's Office of International Affairs and Development (MOIAD)

To promote Houston in the international arena, we focused our efforts on expanding markets, building alliances and creating greater opportunities for Houston business sector. Houston continues to play a significant role in international trade and partnership. In this annual report, we are proud to list the following accomplishments.

I. 16 International Cooperation Agreements/Memorandums*

List of International Cooperation Agreements/Memorandums Signed in 2005 Partner-Cities in Petrochemical Calgary, Canada [May, 2005] **Partners in Bilateral Cooperation** Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, China [April, 2005] [memorandum] Tokyo, Japan International Neighbours Partnership Shanghai, China [April, 2005] Partner-Cities in Hi-Tech [memorandum] Tokyo, Japan Sister-Airport [memorandum] Qiangdao, China Sister-Port Shanghai, China [May, 2005] [memorandum] Qiangdao, China Sister Chamber-of-Commerce [memorandum] Qiangdao, China Public Health/ Healthcare Cooperation Calgary, Canada [May, 2005] Tourism [memorandum] Tokyo, Japan Education Shanghai No. 1 Middle School Attached To East Normal University (with St. John's School -Houston) [April 1, 2005] Calgary, Canada [May, 2005] [memorandum] Shanghai Gao'an Road No. 1 Primary School and Houston KIPP Academy 3D Partner-City in Government Personnel Training [memorandum] Tianjin, China [memorandum] Qiangdao, China

II. 68 Inbound Delegations

In 2005, the Office coordinated and received **68** international delegations from over **35** cities, hosting **473** government and business leaders.

2005 Inbound Delegation	Number
Delegations	68
Delegation Members	473
Countries/Regions	19
Cities/Districts	37

^{*} As of December 31, 2005, the City of Houston has 118 international cooperation agreements and 13 memorandums, a total of 131.

III. 13 Outbound Trade Missions

13 major outbound trade missions were initiated/supported by MOIAD in 2005, total 14 cities: Aichi, Beijing, Belize City, Chicago, Dalian, Detroit, Guanzhou, Hong Kong, Panama City, Qingdao, Shanghai, Tianjin, Tokyo, and Washington D.C.

IV. 8 International Events

8 major events were organized and supported by MOIAD in 2005, such as the Tokyo City Promotion (featuring the Governor of Tokyo), Celebrating Shanghai in Houston Festivities (featuring the Mayor of Shanghai), and recently the Building Educational Bridges between U.S. and China Luncheon (featuring the Vice Minister of Education).

V. 4 Publications

• International Newsletter

Launched on February 1, its circulation reaches over 3,000, local and international.

• MOIAD Website

Launched in January, the website provides the international community with a comprehensive source of information about Houston and MOIAD.

• International Community Event Calendar

Published bi-monthly, the event calendar lists upcoming major international events.

• MOIAD Brochure

Printed in February, the brochure provides an overview of MOIAD services, helping to form stronger partnerships with local organizations and oversea counterparts.

VI. 7 Mayor's International Affairs & Development Councils (MIADC)

Appointed by Mayor Bill White, the 7 new councils focus on Africa, Americas, Asia, Canada, Europe, Middle East/North Africa, and South Asia regions, serving as a valuable resource to the preservation, promotion, and continued growth of Houston's standing as a renowned international city.

VII. 22 Interns

Established in January, the MOIAD internship program is a year-round joint venture program with Rice University and the University of Houston. In 2005, MOIAD had a total of 22 interns.

VIII. Hurricane Katrina Information Office

Established by MOIAD at the Reliant Astrodome, the temporary information office facilitated the consular corps in its efforts to located and assist international evacuees who were sheltered in Houston.